



WWF Project Technical Progress Report

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WWF International, Avenue du Mont-Blanc, 1196 Gland, Switzerland

Project No/Activity No	623-A-00-98-00064-00
Project Title	WWF Tarangire Project
Activity Title(if different)	
Reporting Period	01January-30 th June 2001

1. Introduction: Give a brief description of topic, following by a statement of the specific problem or requirement that led to the project's initiation

Tarangire National Park (TNP) and Lake Manyara National Park (LMNP) are situated in the Northern part of Tanzania. Together they cover more than 2,900 sq. kms (i.e. 2,600 sq. kms plus 325 sq. kms respectively). Both parks together are home to one of the largest elephant populations in East Africa and are rich in other mammals as well. TNP is unique in that it serves as a critical dry season (July – December) refuge for wildlife throughout the 20,000 sq. kms covered by the Maasai Steppe and Lake Manyara areas. The Tarangire River, which flows through the Park, and its associated wetlands provide a year round source of fresh water. In the wet season, many of the animals move out of the park to graze.

Despite their unquestionable importance, both parks have been faced with several constraints that have hindered the development of a comprehensive management strategy. The Managers have now realised the urgency of need of reliable information concerning the natural resources base, patterns of human and wildlife utilisation of the resources and the extent of pressure on the wetlands.

This project aims to address the above and help TNP, LMNP and Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) as a whole integrate existing and new information into the management decision making process. The main focus of this project however, is to improve capacity of both parks in the conservation of the wetlands (i.e. Tarangire river, lake Manyara and all other associated wetlands), ecological monitoring, vegetation and participatory land use mapping, and large mammal surveys in the Tarangire ecosystem.

2. Objectives: As per the project contract

The overall objective of this project is to sustainably conserve the Tarangire wetland system and build capacity in ecological monitoring, including establishment of a GIS centre at TNP for the production of ecological information that will be integrated into park management decisions. The objective also includes establishment of a desktop publishing unit at TANAPA headquarters for production of information materials like; newsletters, Brochures, guidebooks, maps and Post cards on Tarangire and Lake Manyara Parks.

The expected outputs of this project are as follows:

- Tarangire wetlands sustainably conserved
- Population dynamics of large mammals in the ecosystem known
- Migratory routes and Dispersal areas of elephants and other large mammals in the Tarangire Ecosystem described and mapped
- Vegetation and Land - use pattern of the Tarangire ecosystem mapped
- GIS centre established and relevant TANAPA staff trained and capable of gathering, storing, retrieving, analysing and interpreting the ecological data which in-turn could be used to improve management of Tarangire Park.
- Capacity for desktop publishing at TANAPA headquarters built and functional
- Postgraduate students, trained and dissertations produced at MSc level in wildlife ecology and land-use.

3. Progress: Give status of implementation of the project, in particular in relation to the objectives

During the six month period the following has been accomplished:

Sustainable conservation of Tarangire River and its associated wetlands

In collaboration with selected local NGOs (Mazingira Bora Karatu, FIDE) and institutions (Monduli Development Council, TANAPA's Ecology Department) WWF has been implementing the following activities under this objective during the period:

- ◆ WWF issued a sub-grant to FIDE who in turn used it to rehabilitate some eroded catchment slopes of Lake Babati in collaboration with local communities. This involved planting of tree seedlings on the eroded areas and gullies and raising awareness to local communities on good farming practices. To-date about 6,890 tree seedlings have been planted on the eroded catchment slopes facing Lake Babati. Moreover, communities in four villages have been provided with relevant training on good farming practices and environmental conservation. Implementation of this project component is progressing well.
- ◆ WWF also issued a sub-grant to TANAPA's ecology department who during the period continued with the monitoring of water quantity and quality within the Tarangire/Lake Manyara catchment basin. Field data collection and analysis in this regard continues.

- ◆ Mazingira Bora Karatu like FIDE received a sub-grant from WWF for rehabilitation of selected eroded slopes and gullies on the Karatu highlands. Due to having received the sub-grant late, Mazingira Bora Karatu only managed to establish tree nurseries during the reporting period.
- ◆ Similarly, WWF issued a sub-grant to the Monduli Development Council (MDC) for preparing land use plans for Selela and Miwaleni villages. MDP has started mobilising and facilitating the villagers in the development of comprehensive participatory land-use maps for two villages.

Vegetation and Participatory land-use mapping

The following activities have been carried out under this objective:

- ◆ Preparation of vegetation maps for the Tarangire Eco-system continued under sub-grant issued to OIKOS. The maps and the process in this regard are expected to be completed in October 2001.
- ◆ Production of land use-maps for selected villages that have high potential for being turned into Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) within the Tarangire ecosystem continued.
- ◆ Hands-on training of relevant Tarangire National Park staff on vegetation and land use mapping continued.

Ecological Monitoring

The following activities have been implemented under this objective:

- ◆ Design of GIS Centre for the Tarangire Park was completed in February 2001. Pre-qualification selection of Building contractors was done in March and final selection done on 15th May 2001. Raj Building contractors won the bid. A contract was then prepared and signed between WWF and Raj Ltd of Arusha. Actual construction work of the GIS centre commenced on 8th June 2001 and is expected to be completed in October 2001.
- ◆ Wet season aerial counting of large mammals in the Tarangire ecosystem was done using Systematic Reconnaissance Flight (SRF) in April 2001. Data processing and analysis is underway and a comprehensive report in this regard is expected to be produced soon.
- ◆ The inventory of plants by the National Herbarium of Tanzania in Tarangire National Park continued after being stalled by the shift from WWF-US to WWF International. The plant inventory work is progressing well.
- ◆ The inventory of butterflies in the Tarangire ecosystem continued
- ◆ Contract for the inventory of fishes was made to Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute and the work was carried out between August and September 2000. The survey was carried out at Lake Manyara and Burunge and along permanent rivers feeding the two major lakes, permanent swamps and ponds. A final report on the same has already been produced and submitted. Fifteen fish species were recorded out of which 3 could not be identified.
- ◆ The University of Dar Es Salaam, Zoology Department has been contracted to carry out inventory of birds, reptiles & amphibians in the Tarangire ecosystem. The exercise

will start in early July 2001 and with this contract comprehensive reports and guidebooks will be produced on birds, reptiles and amphibians.

- ◆ Training of an MSc graduate student in wildlife ecology (Ms Msoffe) continued and she is expected to complete her studies in November 2001.
- ◆ Radio tracking of elephants, which started in January 1999, continued.
- ◆ Hands on training to park ecologists and other relevant TNP staff on ecological monitoring continued.
- ◆ Road transect counting of large mammals and livestock in the corridor between Tarangire NP and the eastern shore of L. Manyara continued.

Establish and train Desktop publishing Unit for TANAPA headquarters

- ◆ Comprehensive tailor made training modules on Desk top publishing for TANAPA staff have been produced
- ◆ Selection criteria for the right trainees on desk top publishing have been discussed with TANAPA
- ◆ A contract with Africa Vision (an American based NGO) that will carry out the training of TANAPA staff in desktop publishing has been prepared and awaits signing.

3.1 Outputs this reporting period – e.g. report, policy documents, media articles

The following Reports and Minutes have been produced during the reporting period:

- A final technical report on inventory of fishes in the Tarangire/Lake Manyara basin has been produced.
- A draft land use map for Selela village produced.

3.2 Describe the target attained and the important development during the reporting period

During the reporting period the following important development were attained:

- Recruitment of new project executant (Mr. Daniel Mvella) for the project was recruited following resignation of the former one (Mr. Bruno Kawasange).
- Advertisement of Tender for construction of GIS centre and selection of Building Contractor for the same.
- The new Project Executant (PE) participated in the workshop for preparation of Tarangire National Park General Management Plan (GMP).
- The new PE participated in Performance Management workshop, which was organised by the USAID and held at Sea Cliff Hotel in Dar es Salaam.
- Digitisation of the vegetation/land cover map to include Kwakuchinja and Manyara Ranch corridors.

3.3 Target not attained: Please note constraints and obstacles in the progress described

During the reporting period the following could not be attained:

- Training of relevant TNP staff on GIS due to delayed construction of the GIS centre.
- Hands on training of relevant TANAPA staff on desktop publishing. Due to bureaucratic process of obtaining approval on the proposed amendments on the CA and resignation of the former PE of the project.

3.4 Action(s) taken to overcome constraints and obstacles

The following actions have been taken to overcome obstacles:

- The process of designing the centre and selection of building contractor been speeded up and construction of the centre has already started and is progressing well.
- Proposed amendments on the CA have been approved by USAID and a new PE for the project has been recruited (March 2001) to replace the former one. This has significantly improved implementation of the project.

3.5 Prospects for the accomplishment of the project's objectives

Despite delays in implementing objective 4 (implementation of which will start soon) the implementation of other objectives is progressing well and therefore, prospects for accomplishing all objectives of the project are high.

4. Lesson learned during the period under review

Include, if appropriate, an assessment of methods used

- Wide range stakeholder participation in preparation of park's GMP is very important in inculcating institutional learning and coming up with pragmatic plans.
- Active involvement of partners in defining and setting performance targets and indicators is key to effective performance management.

5. Planned targets and activities for the next reporting period

- ❖ Evaluate the performance of the local NGOs already implementing wetland activities prior to reviewing their contracts.
- ❖ Identify and evaluate other local NGOs who may be potential partners in the implementation of activities for sustainable conservation and management of Lake Manyara/Tarangire wetlands.
- ❖ Completion on the construction of the GIS centre.
- ❖ Initiate training in GIS for relevant TNP staff at the centre.
- ❖ Carry out dry season aerial counting (SRF) of large mammals in the Tarangire Ecosystem
- ❖ Completion of preparation of land use maps, vegetation cover maps, and maps showing dispersal areas and migration corridors of large mammals in the Tarangire ecosystem.
- ❖ Continue with Plant inventory exercise for preparation of plant guidebook for Tarangire.
- ❖ Continue with inventory on birds, amphibians and reptiles in the Tarangire ecosystem
- ❖ Completion of butterfly inventory exercise in the Tarangire ecosystem and production of guidebook on the same.
- ❖ Assist in establishment and initiate hands on training of desktop publishing unit for TANAPA.
- ❖ Continue with training of relevant TNP staff on ecological monitoring.
- ❖ Provide Technical and scientific assistance to the MSc. Candidate in wildlife ecology, Ms Msoffe
- ❖ Continue with road transect counts of large mammals and livestock in the corridor between Tarangire NP and the eastern shore of L. Manyara.
- ❖ Continue with road transect counts of large mammals in Tarangire NP.
- ❖ Continue with nocturnal road transect counts of nocturnal animals in the northern part of Tarangire NP.
- ❖ Continue with collection of data about buffalo distribution and population structure in the northern part of Tarangire NP.
- ❖ Facilitate mid-term evaluation of the project

Acronyms.

Avoid the use of acronyms if possible, but list those use (e.g. WTO – World Trade Organisation)

• AOP	Annual Operation Plan (Plan showing activities of all partners)
• CA	Co-operation Agreement
• DOI	Department of Interior (USA)
• GIS	Geographical Information system
• LMNP	Lake Manyara National Park
• NHT	National Herbarium of Tanzania

- SRF Systematic reconnaissance Flight
- TANAPA Tanzania National Parks
- TCP (OIKOS) Tarangire Conservation Programme
- TNP Tarangire National Park
- TPO Tanzania Programme Office (WWF)
- USAID United States Agency for International Development
- WWF World wildlife Fund